MUNICIPAL ART SOCIETY 1979 AWARDS

Detail of Elevation, The Villard Houses
Courtesy, Historic American Buildings Survey.

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The Municipal Art Society of New York is an 87-year-old civic organization dedicated to the preservation and improvement of New York's physical fabric. The Society actively encourages citizen participation in shaping the physical changes as well as the civic and cultural life of our city. At our annual meeting, we recognize those individuals, groups, and structures we believe have most contributed to accomplishing these goals.

Annual Meeting, June 6, 1979.
Radio City Music Hall opened in December 1932 and was restored in June 1979.

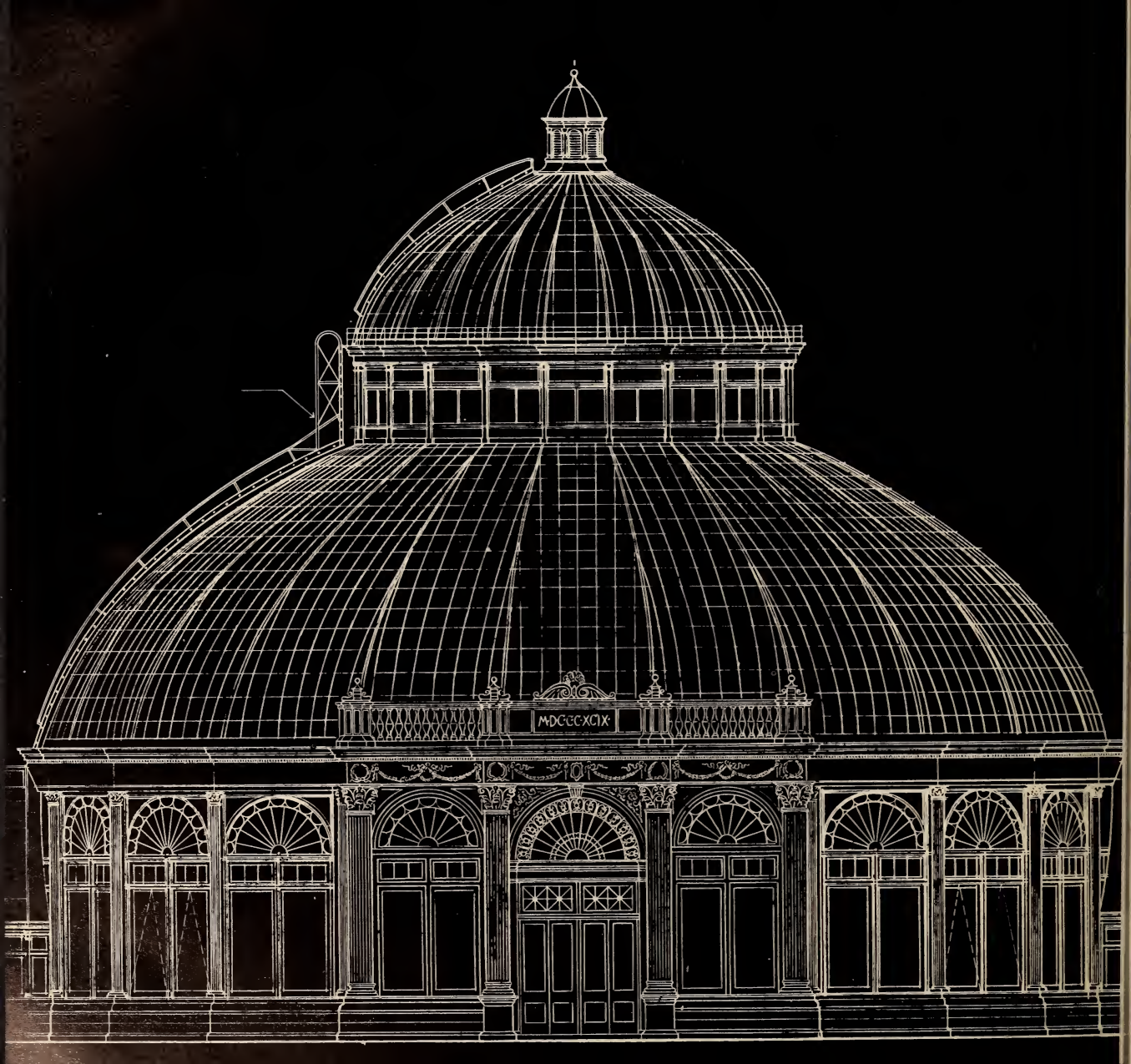
1979 AWARDS

Over 70 nominations were submitted by the Society's members this year. Final selection was made by the Awards Committee which is appointed by the President of the Society. The Committee consisted of Lewis Davis,* architect; Suzanne Davis, foundation executive; David Teitelbaum, real estate developer; Barbaralee Diamonstein,* art critic and consultant; John V. Lindsay, attorney. The chairmen were Gordon Hyatt,* documentary film producer, and Hoyt Spelman, III,* publishing executive.

*Member of the Board of Directors

AVERY
DURST

Evelyn Hofer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BRONZE PLAQUE

The Enid A. Haupt Conservatory

The Municipal Art Society of New York honors the restoration of the Enid A. Haupt Conservatory of the New York Botanical Garden, the Bronx. Presented to Donald Bruckman, Howard Irwin, and Carlton Lees of the New York Botanical Garden; and Edward Larrabee Barnes, Alistair Bevington, and Percy Keck, architects.

Jan C. K. Anderson.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

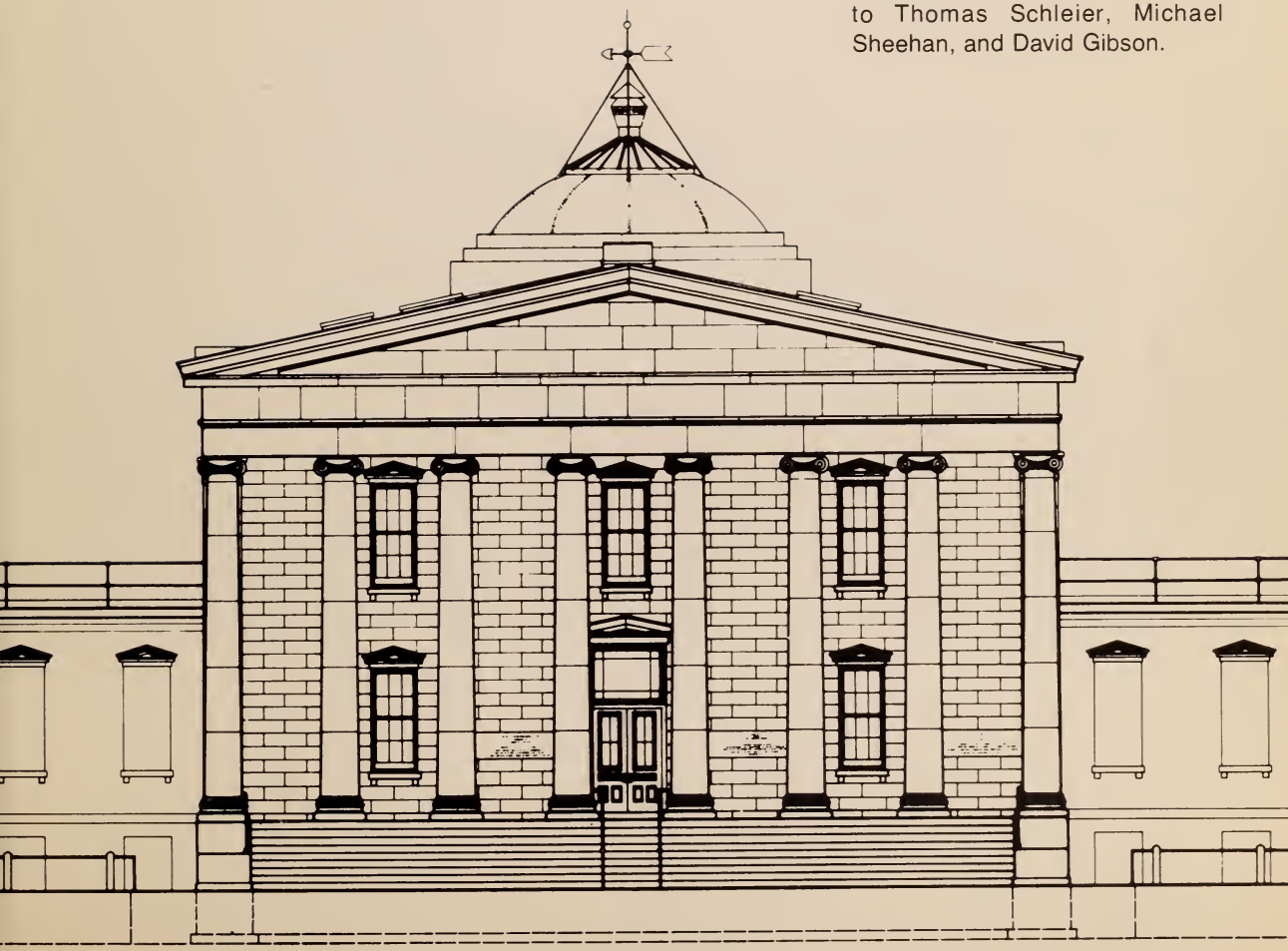
AIA Guide to New York City

In recognition of the revised edition of this conscientious guidebook of New York City's buildings — a witty and helpful pocketful which serves as arbiter of architects, baedeker of boulevardiers, catalog for the curious, primer for preservationists, sourcebook to students. For all who seek to know New York, it is here. No home should be without a copy. Presented to Norval White and Elliot Willensky.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

Snug Harbor Cultural Center, Staten Island

In recognition of the completion of your historic building survey, a first step in the rededication to contemporary purposes of one of the nation's most admired groups of Greek Revival buildings. Presented to Thomas Schleier, Michael Sheehan, and David Gibson.



CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

42nd Street Revival Programs

New York's 42nd Street has long been both famous and infamous. Now with skill and affection it is being brought back to a high pitch of beauty and usefulness; its redevelopers deserve the gratitude not alone of New Yorkers but of visitors from all over the world.

Forty-second Street Redevelopment Corporation.

Manhattan Plaza.

New York City Police Department Substation.

Photographs by Rhoda Galyn.

Apollo Theater.

Theatre Row.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

Museum of the City of New York
New-York Historical Society

In appreciative recognition of those vital institutions that are at once our attics and our treasuries — guardians and conservators of a civic heritage that charms and educates resident and visitor alike.

Museum of the City of New York. Presented to Joseph Veach Noble and Louis Auchincloss.

New-York Historical Society. Presented to Robert Goelet and James Heslin.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

Greenmarkets

In recognition of the outdoor markets which bring together farmer and New Yorker in a combination of good taste, seasonal selection, and creative capitalism for all concerned. Bon appetit! Bon marché! Bon saison! Presented to Marian Heiskell and Lys McLaughlin of the Council on the Environment, Barry Benepe, and Robert Lewis.

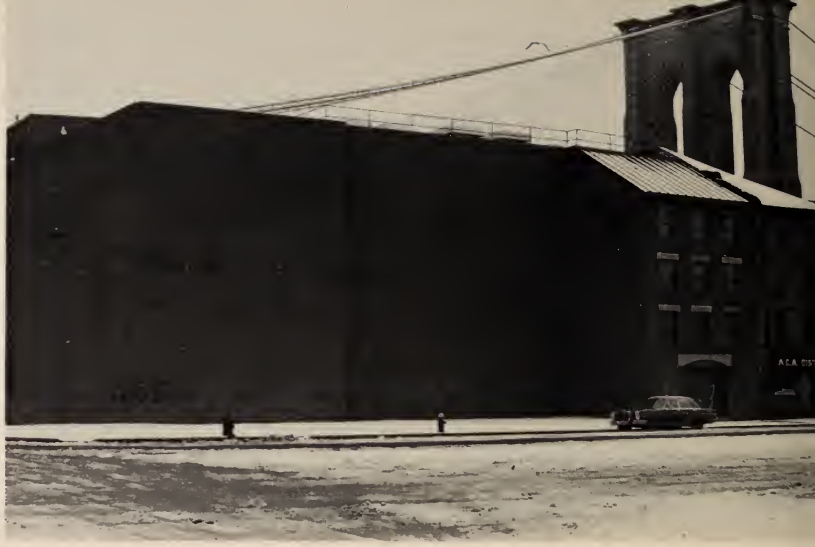
Photograph of Barry Benepe by Steven L. Borns.

Photographs by Rhoda Galyn.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

Richard Haas

An artist whose detailed and lively drawings have recorded many of the historic facades of New York, and whose hand has enlivened the walls of our city with murals that delight as well as deceive the eye.



114 Prince Street.

eck Slip near South Street Seaport.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

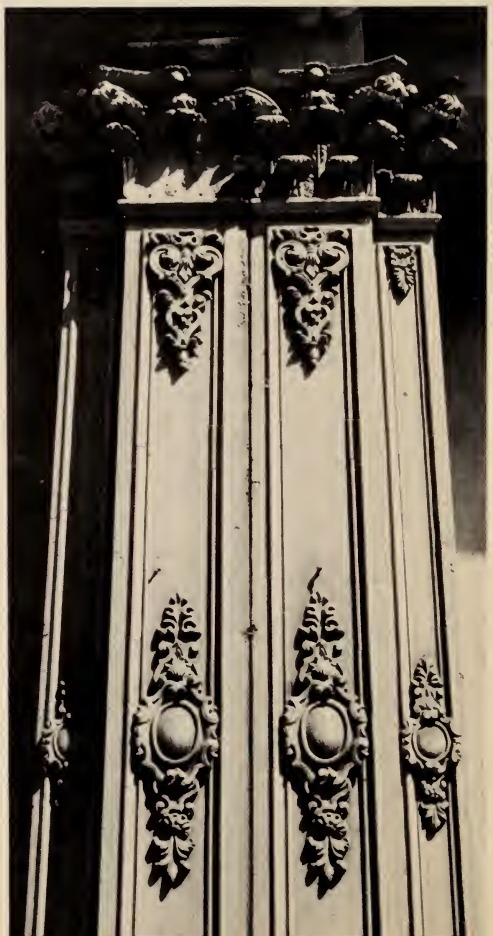
Public Health Law S1310

In recognition of Public Health Law S1310, and the rediscovery that individual responsibility holds a valued place in this age of impersonal services. Presented to Assemblyman Edward H. Lehner and Senator Franz S. Leichter.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

Margot Gayle

A friend of the Jefferson Market Courthouse, of Alice Austen House, of cast iron wall forms, and of Victorian America everywhere — you have rallied us to rediscover our past and to save much that might have been lost forever.



THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Since 1892, the Municipal Art Society has provided private citizens with ways to enhance, improve and enrich our urban environment. The years have strengthened our commitment, broadened our involvement, and confirmed the importance of civic organizations as a force for positive change.

Let's look at how we have directed our energies in this past year. Last June, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld New York City's landmarks law in the Grand Central case, marking a successful conclusion to a decade-long effort of the Society and other civic and professional organizations. More recently, with the support of so many others, we sought ways to save Radio City Music Hall. For this reason we are doubly pleased to be able to hold our Annual Meeting here in the beautifully restored Music Hall, one of New York's most treasured spaces.

No matter how long we live in New York we can never savour all of its special architectural and neighborhood wonders. This year, over 4,000 people joined our guides to "Discover New York" as part of our walking tour program. Hundreds of others have taken our free walking tours of Grand Central Terminal.

RESTORE, our program which teaches and demonstrates the latest technology in masonry preservation and restoration, has graduated its second class of over thirty buildings trade professionals. It is the first of its kind in the country.

The Livable City, the Society's award-winning journal, provides a forum for diverse ideas and opinions on major issues of architecture, preservation, planning, public art, mass transit and urban design. Our "Livable City" radio program also keeps people informed.

To be alert, to organize, and to have the courage to speak out enabled us to aid in the designations of Fort Greene and the Brooklyn Academy of Music triangle as historic districts. And now we are working on the long overdue designation of the Upper East Side as an Historic District.

Since our pilot subway improvement project, "Platforms for Design," we have worked with the MTA on several "Adopt-A-Station" programs to produce feasible designs for subway stations.

The Public Arts Council of the Society continues to demonstrate its advocacy role for artists' inclusion in the planning process of building our cities. "1% For Art In Architecture" legislation has been drafted. George Sugarman's contemporary sculpture was installed at City Hall Park, initiating a program to identify sculpture sites throughout the city. The Council, working with private donors and city agencies, enabled Louise Nevelson to create seven monumental sculptures for a new park in lower Manhattan. The Council also sponsored the installation of Dubuffet's sculpture in Central Park. Wall paintings continue to bring new life to neighborhoods. Recently, artists Richard Haas and Alan Sonfist transformed blank walls into magical illusions.

Our membership has swelled to over 5,000. The need to expand our services is evident. Our future home in the north wing of the Villard Houses makes the dream of an Urban Center a most timely reality. This Urban Center will be shared with the New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, the Architectural League, and the Parks Council. Together we will be better able to serve the many design professionals, community boards, civic organizations, corporations, and government agencies requiring information on New York City and the man-made environment.

As we prepare for our move into the Villard Houses, we undertake an enormous responsibility. Our Board of Directors and Staff will meet this challenge with confidence and enthusiasm.

Doris C. Freedman, President.

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Designed by Robert Fabian.
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a grant from Mobil Oil Corporation.

The wine for the reception following
the annual meeting has been provided by
Michel Monzain Selected Wines, Inc.,
Scarsdale, New York.

PREVIOUS AWARDS

1978 Bronze Plaque
Citicorp Center and
St. Peter's Lutheran Church

Certificates of Merit
Alan Burnham
Giorgio Cavaglieri
Henry-Russell Hitchcock
Estelle Wolf
The Friends of Alice Austen House
The Old House Journal
The Brooklyn Children's Museum
The Harlem School of the Arts
P.S.1
Tabernacle of Prayer for All People
Eleventh Street Movement
Wall to Wall Bach

The President's Medal
Alice M. Kaplan

1977 Certificates of Merit
Opsail, July 4, 1976
Urban Design Group
Ruth Wittenberg
Roosevelt Island
Bustop Shelters, Inc.
James Marston Fitch

The President's Medal
Nancy Hanks

1976 Certificates of Merit
Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corporation
Bronx Art Deco — An Exposition
Brooklyn Union Gas Company
Dover Press
Green Guerrillas
High Rock Park Conservation Center
New York City Department of Highways
The New York Times
The "Peking"
Ruckus Manhattan
Summergarden
Whitney Museum of American Art

The President's Medal
Whitney North Seymour

1975 Certificates of Merit
1199 Plaza
The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art
Friends of Cast Iron Architecture
Institute for Architecture and Urban Studies
Jamaica Arts Center
Poetry in Public Places
Street Enhancers
William H. Whyte, Jr., Street Life Project
WNYC Radio Station

The President's Medal
Mrs. Vincent Astor

1974 Bronze Plaque
One Police Plaza
Squadron A Armory Landmark Park and Playgound

Certificates of Merit
Bronx Museum of the Arts
Roberta Brandes Gratz
David McCullough
Downtown Brooklyn Development Association
Metropolitan Transportation Authority
David Rockefeller
Martin E.Segal
John Zuccotti

The President's Medal
Harmon Goldstone

1973 Bronze Plaque
Schomberg Plaza

Certificates of Merit
Brooklyn Academy of Music
Hattie Carthan
Davis, Brody & Associates
Louise Nevelson
Save Our Parks Committee
Triangle Parks Flatbush Avenue Improvement Association
Frans J.J.Van Heemstra

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New York, New York 10020

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